

Paper 1: Cognition and Behaviour

Question Type	Question wording	How to answer	Top Tip(s)
Multiple Choice	<p>Which is the best example of information that would be stored as procedural memory? Shade one box. [1]</p> <p>Which two of the following are commonly understood to be advantages of case studies? Shade two boxes. [2]</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Check how many marks this question is worth – are you shading 1 or 2 answers? 2. Use a process of elimination – get rid of the answers you know are definitely incorrect first. 3. Colour in the answer bean! If you change your mind, put a cross in the box and colour in the correct answer bean. If you change your mind back to your original answer, put a circle around the crossed-out box! 	<p>Never leave this question blank! If in doubt – guess!</p> <p>Don't shade more than it asks you to, this will detract from your mark.</p>
Design an experiment	<p>You have been asked to investigate the effect of context on the accuracy of memory.</p> <p>Describe how you would design an experiment to do this.</p> <p>You need to include the following information in your answer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What would you ask participants to do and what data would you collect • One extraneous variable that could affect your results and how you would control it • The results you would expect to find from your experiment. <p align="center">[6 marks]</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Check how many questions this mark is worth. 2. Use the bullet pointed list as a success criteria, most bullet points will be worth 2 marks. For example, <i>“one extraneous variable that could affect your results and how you would control it”</i>, here you will get one mark for identifying an extraneous variable, and one mark for stating how you would minimise that variable (usually through standardisation procedures). 3. If it doesn't ask for it in the bullet points, you do not include it in your answer. For example, if it doesn't ask about the sampling method, you do not write about the sampling method. 	<p>Tick off each item on the success criteria (the bullet points) as you go.</p>
Definition	<p>Define the term capacity as it relates to memory. [2 marks]</p> <p>Define the term conformity. [2 marks]</p> <p>What are “false memories”? [2 marks]</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Make sure you understand what the word refers to in psychology, not in everyday language. 2. Definition answers should be one sentence (or two short ones). 3. Identify the key feature of that term. 	<p>You cannot use the word you are being asked to define in the definition. For example you could not use either “false” or “memory” in the definition of a false memory.</p>

Outline or Describe	Outline the stages of the multi-store model of memory. [3 marks] Describe the role of schemas in cognitive development. [3 marks]	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. You are being asked to give factual knowledge. 2. Give the main points, in full but concise sentences. 3. Use psychology terms. 4. If outlining/describing a study you give the Aim, Method, Results, and Conclusion. 5. If outlining/describing a theory, you explain the key terms associated with that study. 	You do not offer an evaluation for these questions.
Evaluate	Evaluate one biological explanation for depression. [4 marks] Evaluate Asch's study of conformity. [5 marks]	<p>Sentence starters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● One strength/weakness of _____ is____. ● For example, _____. ● This is a strength or weakness because_____. <p>For the evaluation of a theory, your point sentence should include a SCOUT word.</p> <p>For the evaluation of a study, your point sentence should include a GRAVED word.</p>	Always aim to write two PEE paragraphs, unless is specifically asks for one. Check whether the question is asking you specifically for strengths or weaknesses. If it doesn't say, then either are acceptable.
Briefly evaluate	Briefly evaluate one weakness of Piaget's theory of cognitive development. [2 marks] Briefly evaluate the use of questionnaires in psychological research. [3 marks]	Exactly as with a full evaluate question, however you only need to make one point/write one paragraph.	Stick to the PEE structure.

<p>Describe and Evaluate - Theory</p>	<p>Describe and evaluate the Multi-Store Model of Memory. [9 marks]</p> <p>Describe and evaluate Gibson's Direct Theory of Perception. [9 marks]</p>	<p>AO1 [4 marks]: For your first paragraph, concisely, and in full sentences, write down</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First sentence = the theory in a 'nutshell'. • Describe the key components or stages of that theory. • Include any important definitions relating to that theory. <p>AO3 [5 marks]: For your second and third paragraph, concisely, and in full sentences write two PEE paragraphs. These can be a strength and a weakness, a strength and a strength, or a weakness and a weakness. Use the SCOUT terms to help you.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>One strength/weakness of this study is...</i> • <i>For example...</i> • <i>This is strength/weakness because...</i> 	<p>SCOUT stands for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting evidence (are there studies that support the ideas of the theory?) • Conflicting evidence (are there any studies that have found the theory to be inaccurate?) • Other theory (has anyone else proposed a differing theory?) • Usefulness (how can this theory be used to improve our day-to-day lives?) • Testable (can the ideas of this theory be tested using an experiment?) <p>If this question says that it is only worth [6 marks] you only need to write 1 evaluative paragraph.</p> <p>Always write in full sentences!</p>
<p>Describe and Evaluate - Study</p>		<p>AO1 [4 marks]: For your first paragraph, concisely, and in full sentences, write down</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The aim (<i>Bartlett wanted to investigate....</i>) • The method (<i>He recruited xx participants and asked them to...</i>) • The results (<i>His results showed that...</i>) • The conclusion (<i>This study concluded that...</i>) <p>Your conclusion should link to the aim.</p> <p>AO3 [5 marks]: For your second and third paragraph, concisely, and in full sentences write two PEE paragraphs. These can be a strength and a weakness, a strength and a strength, or a weakness and a weakness. Use the GRAVED terms to help you.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>One strength/weakness of this study is...</i> • <i>For example...</i> • <i>This is strength/weakness because...</i> 	<p>GRAVED stands for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generalisable (do the participants represent the full target population?) • Reliable (can we repeat the study?) • Applicable (can we use this information to help us in life?) • Valid (does this experiment reflect real life?) • Ethical (could this experiment cause anyone harm?) • Design (has the experiment used a matched pairs, repeated measures, or independent groups design?) <p>If this question says that it is only worth [6 marks] you only need to write 1 evaluative paragraph.</p> <p>Always write in full sentences!</p>

Case Study	<p>Read the following information [...]</p> <p>[...]</p> <p>Outline how culture can affect perception. Refer to both Marc and Jose's comments in your answer.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">[4 marks]</p>	<p>AO1 [2 marks] – Identify and explain the psychological phenomenon referenced in the question.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>E.g. Culture refers to... this can affect a person's perception by...</i> <p>AO2 [2 marks] – Explain how it links to the case study referenced in the question.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>E.g. This links to the scenario because...</i> • <i>E.g. Therefore, in the scenario...</i> 	<p>Use the person's name from the question in your answer.</p> <p><i>E.g. If the question references Marc and Jose, be sure to use both of their names in your answer.</i></p>
Diagram	<p>Sketch the Muller-Lyer illusion</p> <p style="text-align: right;">[2 marks]</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Always use a pencil – never a pen! 2. You may need to use a ruler too. 3. Check whether you are being asked to label the diagram too. 	<p>AQA penalises diagrams only when they're:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ messy ✗ incorrect ✗ missing labels ✗ not what the question asked for <p>You do NOT need shading, colours, or detailed shapes.</p>
Graph	<p>Use the graph paper to sketch a scatter diagram to show the results shown in Table 3. Provide a suitable title and labels for your diagram.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">[4 marks]</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Check what type of graph it is asking for. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bar chart – categories • Scatter graph – correlations • Histogram – grouped, continuous data 2. Draw and label the axis. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • X-Axis – categories or conditions • Y-Axis – scores 3. Plot the data really carefully. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make bars the same width • Leave gaps between bars in a bar chart, bars are touching on a histogram. • Start the Y-axis at zero • Plot points accurately in a scatter graph • Add a line of best fit ONLY if asked 4. Give your graph a title. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>A bar chart to show the number of people who....</i> • <i>A scatter graph to show the relationship between ____ and ____.</i> • <i>A histogram to show the relationship between ____ and ____.</i> 	<p>Use a pencil.</p> <p>Keep it simple and clear. DO NOT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shade bars • Add unnecessary detail • Draw wobbly curves • Add extra decoration <p>Simple shapes, straight lines, and clear labels = full marks.</p> <p>You are awarded marks for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The title 2. Correctly labelled axis 3. Correct scale and plotting. 4. Correct type of graph

<p>Maths!</p>	<p>Calculate the median for the average mental well-being scores shown in Table 3. [1 mark]</p>	<p>Mean:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Add all the scores together. ● Divide the total by how many scores there are. <p>Mode:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Look for the score that appears the most times. <p>Range:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Find the highest number. ● Find the lowest number. ● Subtract lowest from highest. <p>Median:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Put the scores in order (lowest to highest). ● Find the middle value. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Always show your working out, you may still get a mark if your answer is wrong but your working out is sound. ● Check where you are meant to write your answer! If there is a specific line for your answer, write it on there.
<p>Using results</p>	<p>Use your knowledge of one factor that affects perception to explain the results shown in Table 1 (on page 10). [4 marks]</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Find the results you are meant to use. Look back at the graph, table, bar chart, description. 2. Understand what the results show (does one group score higher, is one condition faster, is there a pattern, is there a difference, does one variable go up when the other goes up?) 3. Link the results to psychology, they must connect to a concept such as a theory, a study, a research methods concept. 4. Use the data directly – quote the numbers. 	<p>If you do not make a direct reference to the numbers in the data sets, you will not get the marks.</p>

<p>Synoptic (AO2)</p>	<p>Read the following information [...] Use your knowledge of both negative schemas as an explanation for depression and Dweck's Mindset theory of learning to explain why these two students responded in different ways. Briefly evaluate both negative schemas as an explanation for depression and Dweck's Mindset theory.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">[9 marks]</p>	<p>A synoptic question requires you to combine your knowledge of two different modules in Psychology, an AO2 synoptic question will also include a mini-case study/scenario.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify the topics you're being tested on (memory, perception, development, research methods, social influence, language and thought, neuropsychology, or psych problems). 2. Identify the command words in the question, are you being asked to explain, apply, discuss, or evaluate? 3. Read the scenario carefully. 4. Apply your knowledge of psychology to the scenario. 5. Have you referenced the results from the scenario (if given) in your answer? 	<p>Highlight or underline key words in the scenario.</p> <p>If the question is worth 9 marks you will be awarded:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● AO1 (demonstrate your knowledge) – 3 marks ● AO2 (link to the scenario) – 3 marks ● AO3 (evaluate) – 3 marks
<p>Synoptic (AO1 and AO3)</p>	<p>The psychologist Carol Dweck developed a theory about the way in which our mindset affects learning. Donald Hebb was a neuropsychologist who developed the theory of learning and neuronal growth.</p> <p>Explain what Dweck means by 'fixed mindset' and 'growth mindset'.</p> <p>Briefly describe Hebb's theory.</p> <p>Discuss whether or not Hebb's theory supports the idea that having a growth mindset is an advantage when learning.</p>	<p>A synoptic question requires you to combine your knowledge of two different modules in Psychology.</p> <p>Step 1 – read the question and highlight the command words.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Explain or describe or outline (AO1) ● Discuss or evaluate (AO3) <p>Step 2 – split your answer into the different sub-tasks. Look for the command words. <i>e.g. using the example:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>part 1 Dweck's mindset theory</i> ● <i>part 2 Hebb's theory</i> ● <i>part 3 link together to evaluate Dweck</i> <p>Step 3 – assess your answer using the question. Once you have completed your answer, re-read the question and tick off the parts of the question you have answered.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Use separate mini paragraphs for each subtask of the question. ● Keep using words from the question to ensure you are staying on task. ● Avoid unnecessary information – if it doesn't answer the question don't include it.

